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FABIAN TRACT No. 24.

Questions for Parliamentary Candidates

(Revised July 1895.)

Sir,

In connection with your candidature for this constituency, I should be obliged if you would be good enough to answer the following questions, and return the paper to me.

I am, yours faithfully,

Name of Elector .....

Address of Elector .....

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
Will you press at the first opportunity for the following reforms :—	
I.—A DEMOCRATIC BUDGET.	
1. The further taxation of unearned incomes by means of a graduated and differentiated Income Tax ;	
2. The total abolition of the duties on tea, cocoa, coffee, currants and other dried fruits, and the substitution for them of direct taxation ;	
3. An increase of the scale of graduation of the Death Duties, so as to fall more heavily on large inheritances ;	
4. The appropriation of the unearned increment by the taxation and rating of ground rents and values ;	
5. The nationalization of mining rents and royalties ?	
II.—A LABOR PROGRAM.	
6. The fixing of "an Eight Hours Day" as the maximum for all public servants ;	
7. An Eight Hours Bill for Miners, without local option ;	
8. The legal limitation of the hours of work of railway servants to eight per day or forty-eight per week ;	

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QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
9. A general Eight Hours Bill to be applied with necessary adaptations to the various industries by Home Secretary's order ;	
10. The direct employment of labor by all public authorities whenever possible, and, whenever it is not possible, only "fair houses" to be employed, sub-contracting to be prohibited, and Trade Union rates of wages to be paid ?	
III.—SOCIAL REFORM IN TOWN AND COUNTRY.	
11. The extension of full powers to Parish, Town, and County Councils for the collective organization of the (*a*) water (*b*) gas and (*c*) electric lighting supplies, (*d*) hydraulic power, (*e*) tramways and light railways, (*f*) dwellings for the people, (*g*) sale of coal and coke, alcoholic liquors, and such other public services as may be desired by the inhabitants ;	
12. The transfer of the complete control of the police, and the canals and navigable rivers to the County Councils ;	
13. The grant of power to all local bodies to retain the freehold of any land that may come into their possession ;	
14. The grant of ample compulsory powers to all local authorities to acquire land to be let out—*not sold*—in allotments and small tenancies, instead of the creation of landowners by any system of land purchase at the public expense or under State guarantee ;	
15. The grant of powers to Parish Councils to build and let cottages ;	
16. The regulation and control of all local (non-ecclesiastical) charities by Parish, District, and County Councils ;	
17. The relief of the existing ratepayer by (*a*) Imposing, for local purposes, a municipal death duty on local real estate, collected in the same way as the existing Death Duties ; (*b*) Collecting rates from the owners of empty houses and vacant land ;	

(*c*) Securing special contributions by way of "betterment," from the owners of property benefited by public improvements ;

18. The further equalization of the poor and other rates in London ;

19. The Unification of London Government under the County Council, and the reclamation of London's misappropriated endowments ;

20. The reform of leasehold tenure by giving security to all tenants for their "goodwill" and improvements, instead of the enfranchisement of leaseholds ?

IV.—THE CHILDREN AND THE POOR.

21. The extension of the prohibitions on the employment of children in industrial occupations to the age of 14 years ;

22. The control by School Boards of all State-subsidized schools ;

23. The provision of free meals for necessitous children, out of public funds, in all such schools ;

24. The establishment of Training Colleges for teachers at convenient centres, under full public control and free from sectarian influences ;

25. The creation of a complete system of public secondary education ;

26. The institution of universal State pensions for the support of the aged and infirm as a substitute for the present Poor Law relief ?

V.—DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL MACHINERY.

27. An amendment of the Registration Laws, with the aim of giving every adult man a vote, and no one more than one vote ;

28. A redistribution of seats with a view to make each vote of the same value ;

29. The grant of the franchise to women on the same terms as to men ;

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QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
30. The admission of women to seats in the House of Commons and on County Councils ;	
31. The second ballot at Parliamentary and other elections ;	
32. The payment of all members of Parliament, and of Parliamentary election expenses, out of public funds ;	
33. Triennial Parliaments ;	
34. All Parliamentary elections to be held on the same day ;	
35. Home Rule all round ?	

Signature of Candidate

Address .....

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